

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When a single print job is divided into a plurality of distributed jobs and the distributed jobs are printed using a plurality of printers, whether any of the

5 plurality of printers is abnormal is detected. If at least one of the printers is abnormal, at least part of the distributed job that was to be printed by the abnormal printer is assigned to another printer by control that facilitates the collection and sorting of

10 the printouts produced by the printers.